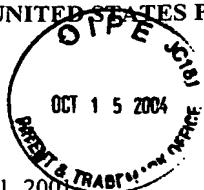


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Chen, et al.) Group Art Unit: 3761
 Serial No.: 10/036,736) Examiner: Jacqueline F. Stephens
 Filed: December 21, 2001) Our Account No.: 04-1403
 Confirmation No.: 3665) Customer No.: 22827
 Title: Sponge-Like Pad Comprising Paper Layers And
 Method Of Manufacture)



Commissioner for Patents
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
 Post Office Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is an Information Disclosure Statement for the captioned patent application, pursuant to 37 CFR Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98.

1.[x] Attached hereto is:

- a.[x] A list of materials for consideration per Rule 98(a)(1): 1 page(s)
- b.[x] A legible copy of each patent, publication, or other item listed per Rule 98(1)(2), unless not required per Rule 98 and/or as indicated on the attached list(s):
5 item(s)
- c. [] For each non-English language item listed, pursuant to Rule 98(a)(3), a concise explanation of the relevance thereof as it is presently understood by the individual designated in Rule 56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of such items: _____

[] Such explanation is provided in the Search Report from a corresponding application enclosed herewith along with any enclosed translation into English.

2.[x] This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed [CHECK ONE]:

- a. [] WITHIN THREE MONTHS of the application filing date, national stage date of entry, or along with or after a request for continued examination, OR BEFORE the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, which ever event occurs last, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(b) NO filing fee or Rule 97(e) certificate is required.
- b. [] AFTER the time periods of section 2.a above, but BEFORE a Final Action, Notice of Allowance OR an action that otherwise closes prosecution, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(c) submitted herewith is [CHECK ONE]:
 - i. [] Certification per Rule 97(e); OR
 - ii. [] Filing Fee per Rule 17(p)\$180.00
- c. [] AFTER a Final Action OR Notice of Allowance, but BEFORE payment of the issue fee, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(d) submitted herewith is:
 - i. Certification per Rule 97(e); AND
 - ii. Filing fee per Rule 17(p)\$180.00

3.[x] Rule 97(e) Certification; per Rule 97(e), the undersigned certifying party make the following certification statement [CHECK ONE]:

- a. [] That each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; OR
- b. [x] That no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to the knowledge of the undersigned after making a reasonable

inquiry, was known to any individual designated in Rule 56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

CERTIFYING PARTY (if different from bottom signature; omission here indicates that certification is being made by signer per signature below).

Name: _____
Address: _____

Signature: _____
Date: _____

4.[x] DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATION: The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any fees in addition to the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (deficiency only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting official document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Account No. shown in the heading hereof for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached. This statement does not authorize charge of the issue fee in this case.

5.[x] CERTIFICATE OF MAILING: This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to [CHECK AND COMPLETE ONE]:

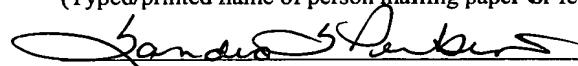
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By: Christina L. Mangelsen, Patent Agent

Reg. No: 50,244

Signature: 

Date: October 13, 2004



(Rev. 5/92) Information Disclosure Statement List By Applicant(s) Under 37 CFR Section 1.98(a) (1) (Use several sheets if necessary)	Attorney Docket Number:	Serial Number:
	KCX-484 (17155)	
	Applicant: Chen, et al.	
	Filing Date: December 21, 2001	Group Art Unit: 3761
Confirmation No: 3665		

NOTE: If no indication is made in the column marked "COPY NOTE," the required legible copy of the corresponding item is submitted herewith; otherwise, a copy is not required and/or not submitted, for the following reason(s) [corresponding reason number is listed in "COPY NOTE" column]

- (1) This item is cumulative, per Rule 98(c)
- (2) A copy of this item was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in:
 - USSN _____, filed _____, or
 - USSN _____, filed _____;
- (3) Relied on under 35 U.S.C. Section 120, per Rule 98(d)
- (4) Both reasons (1) and (2) apply
- (5) No legible complete copy is possessed, in custody of controlled, or readily available
- (5) Per the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's waiver of Rule 98(a)(2)(i), the item is a U.S. patent or patent application publication, and the present application was filed after June 30, 2003.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
EXAMINER INITIALS	PATENTEE NAME		PATENT NUMBER				ISSUE DATE	COPY NOTE	
	Young, et al.		3	7	0	3	7	3	9
	McAvoy		4	4	3	7	2	7	1
	Moren, et al.		6	2	0	7	2	4	6
									11/28/1972
									03/20/1984
									03/27/2001

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS									
EXAMINER INITIALS	APPLICANT'S NAME		PUBLICATION NUMBER			PUBLICATION DATE	COPY NOTE		
	Linzell	2003	0	1	6	4	1	7	5
									09/04/2003

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIALS	COUNTRY	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	TRANSLATION		COPY NOTE
				YES	NO	

EXAMINER INITIALS	OTHER DOCUMENTS			COPY NOTE
	Specify author (if any), Title, Pertinent Pages, Date & Place of Publication			
	PCT Search Report and Written Opinion for PCT/US2004/017637		10/06/2004	
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED			
Examiner:	initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.			